import of Complete Machinery and Equipments (excluding spares and components) during 1984-85 is Rs. 1328.34 crores. Data beyond this period is not available at present.

Housing accommodation to beedi workers on hire-purchase basis

127. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proopse to construct and provide housing accommodation to beedi workers on hire-purchase basis; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, housing assistance is provided to Beedi Workers under the Build Your Own House Scheme, and the housing scheme for economically weaker sections.

Family Welfare Education Project for Beedi workers

128. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Family Welfare Education Project for beedi workers is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, what are the details of the Project; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The Project to be financed by UNFPA/ILO is under consideration of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. It is proposed to impart family welfare educaion to the beedi workers and motivate them to adopt small family norms and to provide family planning services.

(c) Its implementation is likely to commence in 1987.

Reorganisation of States

129. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to initiate steps for reorganisation of States on vertical and horizontal basis so as to make the Indian federation a strong and united polity; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Wages to agricultural labour and construction workers

130. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the level of wages being given to the agricultural labour and construction workers is below the poverty line; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to increase their wages so as to enable them to meet their minimum needs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) For Agricultural and construction industry, it is primarily the State Governments who are competent to determine minimum wages. Each State assesses its local conditions and follows suitable criteria while fixing the minimum wages. State Governments have been advised to take into consideration all relevant considerations including poverty line while fixing minimum wages.

Free-trade Zones

131. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of free-trade zones set up in the country so far;